

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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S E C R E T USNATO 5920

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: PARA 3 OF POSITION PAPER: SPC

MEETING OCTOBER 30

REF: A. STATE 256964 DTG 300025Z OCT 75

B. STATE 246824 DTG 170027Z OCT 75

C. USNATO 5808 DTG 241742Z OCT 75

D. STATE 256963 DTG 300024Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORTS ON SPC DISCUSSION OCTOBER 30 OF
PARA 3 OF THE DRAFT POSITION PAPER, RE APPROPRIATE DEFINITION
OF THE COMMON CEILING. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 5 BELOW.
END SUMMARY.

1. US REP (MOORE) PROPOSED THE FOOTNOTE FOR PARA 3 OF THE
DRAFT POSITION PAPER THAT THE AGGREGATE AIR MANPOWER TOTALS
OF THE TWO SIDES ARE VERY CLOSE, PER REF A. HE AGAIN NOTED THE
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NEED TO AVOID IMPOSING PRE-CONDITIONS FOR INCLUSION OF AIR
MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING. BELGIAN REP (BURNY) SAID BELGIUM
DID NOT WANT TO ESTABLISH A PRE-CONDITION, BUT DID WANT THE EAST
TO REFLECT ON THE FACT THAT THE ALLIES ARE MAKING THE PROPOSAL

HAVING IN MIND THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER. HE DID NOT THINK US FOOTNOTE WOULD MEET BELIGAN CONCERN. UK REP (BAILES) SAID THAT THE US FOOTNOTE WOULD BE SATISFACTORY TO THE UK. SHE WONDERED IF IT WOULD MEET THE BELGIAN CONCERN TO ADD TO THAT FOOTNOTE THAT THE EXISTING GUIDANCE ON APPROXIMATE PAIRTY IN AIR MANPOWER REMAINS IN FORCE. SHE SAID THE UK COULD ACCEPT ADDING THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE TO THE US FOOTNOTE, IF IT WOULD HELP OBTAIN BELGIAN AGREEMENT: "THE RELEVANT GUIDANCE, CONTAINED IN ANNEX C TO C-M(74)63 (FINAL) OF 14 OCTOBER 1974 REMAINS IN FORCE." FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID THE UK ADDITION TO THE US FOOTNOTE WOULD HELP THE FRG ON THIS POINT. (COMMENT: WE RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE OF THE UK ADDITION TO THE US FOOTNOTE, IF IT WILL PRODUCE CONSENSUS TO DROP THE BELGIAN SENTENCE IN THE DRAFT GUIDANCE, SINCE PREVIOUS GUIDANCE ON DATA OBVIOUSLY REMAINS IN FORCE UNLESS OTHERWISE SUPERSEDED.

2. FRG REP PROPOSED REVISING THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES OF THE US PART OF PARA 3 OF THE POSITION PAPER (PARA 2, REF B) AS FOLLOWS (THESE CHANGES ARE PER PARA 4, REF C): "THE ALLIES SHOULD INSIST THAT A PHASE I AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING AS TO THE LEVELS OF US AND SOVIET GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL AND OF US AND SOVIET GROUND PLUS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. THEY SHOULD SEEK A COMMON UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EAST ON THE AGGREGATE LEVELS OF GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL AND OF GROUND PLUS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL OF BOTH SIDES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS FOLLOWING THE PHASE I REDUCTIONS." HE SAID FRG COULD ACCEPT THE THIRD SENTENCE OF THE US TEXT. HE PROPOSED ADDING A FINAL SENTENCE TO COVER THE FRG POSITION ON PHASE II REDUCTION COMMITMENTS AS FOLLOWS: "THE AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST ON THE COLLECTIVE CHARACTER OF A COMMON CEILING HAS TO INCLUDE AGREEMENT ON THE COLLECTIVE NATURE OF THE REDUCTION COMMITMENTS."

3. US REP MADE THE POINTS IN REF D CONCERNING THE UK AMENDMENTS TO THE FINAL SENTENCE OF THE US PART OF PARA 3. UK REP SAID THAT UK MIGHT BE WILLING TO DROP THE WORD "PRECISE" FROM ITS VERSION
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OF THE FINAL SENTENCE IF THE US COULD DROP THE PHRASE "AND SUBJECT TO LATER NAC GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT". (COMMENT: WE DO NOT SEE HOW AHG COULD SEEK AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE NUMERICAL LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING, EVEN WITH DELETION OF THE WORD "PRECISE" UNTIL THE NAC HAS DECIDED ON THE NUMERICAL LEVEL.)

4. MISSION NOTES THAT PARA 1 B, REF D, HAS ALTERED THE ENDING OF THE SENTENCE IN QUESTION TO READ "COMBINED COMMON CEILING ON GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER TO BE REACHED FOLLOWING THE PHASE II REDUCTIONS". THE ORIGINAL VERSION REFERRED SIMPLY TO "COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING TO BE REACHED FOLLOWING THE PHASE II REDUCTIONS". AS REPORTED IN PARA 5, REF C, FRG WISHES, IF AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING PROVED FEASIBLE,

THAT THE UNDERSTANDING WOULD INCLUDE THE LEVEL OF THE GROUND
FORCE CEILING. FRG REP INFORMS US THAT PREFERRED FRG WORDING FOR
THE SENTENCE IN QUESTION IS SIMPLY TO PUT CEILING IN THE PLURAL,
SO THE END OF THE SENTENCE WOULD READ "COMMON COLLECTIVE
CEILINGS TO BE REACHED FOLLOWING THE PHASE II REDUCTIONS". THUS
AGREEMENT COULD BE SOUGHT ON THE LEVEL OF BOTH THE GROUND AND
THE GROUND PLUS AIR CEILINGS, AND THE MORE IMPORTANT OF THESE
TO FRG IS THE LEVEL OF THE GROUND CEILING.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3:

A) GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF UK ADDITION TO THE US
FOOTNOTE PER PARA 1 ABOVE;

B) GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF THE FIRST TWO FRG REVISIONS IN
PARA 2 ABOVE (FRG SENTENCE ON PHASE II REDUCTION COMMITMENTS
IS COVERED BY EXISTING WASHINGTON GUIDANCE);

C) GUIDANCE ON UK SUGGESTION IN PARA 3 ABOVE; AND

D) GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF PUTTING CEILING IN THE
PLURAL IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE TEXT IN PARA 2, REF B,
INSTEAD OF ENDING THAT SENTENCE PER PARA 1 B, REF D, IN LIGHT
OF COMMENT IN PARA 4 ABOVE. BRUCE

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